IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1.   (currently amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~not~~ created by <u>an unauthorized process</u>~~a user~~ and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side;

alerting a system user on the sending side as to the message being sent; and

allowing <u>a</u>~~the~~ user to authorize sending of the message.

2.   (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the send function is activated by ~~an~~<u>the</u> unauthorized <u>process</u>~~agent~~.

3.   (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the unauthorized <u>process</u>~~agent~~ comprises one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message.

4.   (original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said recognizing recognizes a send operation initiated by the user.

5.   (currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said recognizing recognizes a send operation initiated by <u>the</u>~~an~~ unauthorized <u>proces</u>~~agent~~ comprising one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message.

6.   (currently amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~not~~ created by <u>an unauthorized process</u>~~a user~~ and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side; and

stopping transmission of the message until authorized by <u>a</u>~~the~~ user.

7.   (currently amended) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~not~~ created by <u>an unauthorized process</u> ~~a user~~ and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side; and

providing <u>a</u>~~the~~ user with an opportunity to consider canceling transmission of the message until authorized by the user.

8.   (original) A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising displaying the compete message to the user after the send function is initiated in an interface allowing the user to modify the message, cancel transmission of the message and authorize transmission of the message.

9.   (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

an e-mail transmission system having a sending side and a receiving side; and

an e-mail system recognizing a complete e-mail message ~~not~~ created by <u>an unauthorized process</u> ~~a user~~ and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, by a user via the transmission system, alerting a user on the sending side as to the addressees of the message and allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

10.   (currently amended) A computer readable storage medium for controlling a computer including a computer program recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message ~~not~~ created by <u>an unauthorized process</u> ~~a user~~ and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, alerting a user as to the message being sent and allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

11.   (currently amended) An electronic message alert display, comprising:

text alerting a user on a sending side as to a complete electronic message ~~not~~ created by <u>an unauthorized process</u> ~~a user~~ and having a valid recipient address, about to be sent; after a send function has been initiated,

a list of addressees; and

an interface element allowing the user to authorize transmission of the message.

12.   (currently amended) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:

determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts needed to be a valid electronic mail message and ~~not~~ created by an unauthorized process~~the user~~ is to be sent; and

alerting the user as to the message to be sent

13.   (currently amended) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:

determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts needed to be a valid electronic mail message and ~~not~~ created by an unauthorized process~~the user~~ is to be sent;

alerting the user as to the message to be sent; and

allowing the user to permit sending of the message to be sent.

14.   (new) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:

determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts needed to be a valid electronic mail message and by one of a virus and a trojan horse is to be sent; and

alerting a user as to the message to be sent.

15.   (new) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side;

alerting a system user on the sending side as to the message being sent; and

allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

16.   (new) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a

receiving side; and

stopping transmission of the message until authorized by the user.

17.   (new) An e-mail method, comprising:

recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, from a sending side to a receiving side; and

providing the user with an opportunity to consider canceling transmission of the message until authorized by the user.

18.   (new) An apparatus, comprising:

an e-mail transmission system having a sending side and a receiving side; and

an e-mail system recognizing a complete e-mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, by a user via the transmission system, alerting a user on the sending side as to the addressees of the message and allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

19.   (new) A computer readable storage medium for controlling a computer including a computer program recognizing whether a complete electronic mail message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address, is to be sent, after a send function has been initiated, alerting a user as to the message being sent and allowing the user to authorize sending of the message.

20.   (new) An electronic message alert display, comprising:

text alerting a user on a sending side as to a complete electronic message by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message and having a valid recipient address, about to be sent; after a send function has been initiated,

a list of addressees; and

an interface element allowing the user to authorize transmission of the message.

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21.   (new) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:

determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts needed to be a valid electronic mail message and by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message is to be sent; and

alerting the user as to the message to be sent

22.   (new) An e-mail method associated with messages of a user, comprising:

determining whether an electronic mail message having at least a minimum of parts needed to be a valid electronic mail message and by one of a virus, a trojan horse and an agent other than an owner of a mail client source of the message is to be sent;

alerting the user as to the message to be sent; and

allowing the user to permit sending of the message to be sent.